Vote No. 26

March 5, 1997, 5:48 pm Page S-1970 Temp. Record

## LOBBY ACT WAIVER FOR BARSHEFSKY/Passage

SUBJECT: A resolution to waive certain Lobby Reform Act provisions of the Trade Act as they may apply to the Barshefsky nomination . . . S.J. Res. 5. Passage.

## **ACTION: JOINT RESOLUTION PASSED, 98-2**

SYNOPSIS: S.J. Res. 5, a resolution to waive certain Lobby Reform Act provisions of the Trade Act as they may apply to the Barshefsky nomination, will waive for acting United States Trade Representative (USTR) Ambassador Charlene Barshefsky the provision that forbids the appointment of a USTR or Deputy USTR who has directly represented, aided, or advised a foreign government or foreign political party in a trade dispute or negotiation with the United States. That provision was enacted last year as part of the Lobbying Reform Act.

## Those favoring passage contended:

The Lobbying Reform Act provision barring the appointment of a USTR or Deputy USTR who has represented a foreign government or political party in a trade dispute or negotiation with the United States may apply to the appointment of Ambassador Barshefsky to be USTR, though we do not believe that it does. She worked for Quebec and for Canada, providing legal advice on trade issues with the United States, but she never lobbied for or otherwise represented either in a dispute or negotiation. We admit that the case is not clear; the law could be construed as barring her appointment. However, we also note that when we passed the law she was already serving as Deputy USTR and was specifically exempted. We think that even if the law technically applies she should be able to retain her current exemption and become USTR. We therefore strongly support this waiver.

## Those opposing passage contended:

The Lobbying Reform bill was passed last year due to the perception that lobbyists were buying influence. That perception, especially when foreign governments appeared to be buying influence, was (and is) extremely corrosive to our democracy. We realize

(See other side) **YEAS (98)** NAYS (2) NOT VOTING (0) Republican Republicans **Democrats Democrats** Republicans **Democrats** (53 or 96%) (45 or 100%) (2 or 4%) (0 or 0%) (0)(0)Abraham Hutchinson Akaka Johnson Allard Ashcroft Baucus Hutchison Kennedy Lott Bennett Inhofe Biden Kerrey Jeffords Bond Bingaman Kerry Brownback Kempthorne Boxer Kohĺ Burns Kyl Breaux Landrieu Campbell Lautenberg Lugar Bryan Chafee Mack Bumpers Leahy Coats McCain Byrd Levin Cochran McConnell Cleland Lieberman Murkowski Collins Conrad Mikulski Coverdell Nickles Daschle Moseley-Braun Roberts Moynihan Craig Dodd D'Amato Roth Dorgan Murray DeWine Santorum Durbin Reed Domenici Sessions Reid Feingold Enzi Shelby Feinstein Robb Faircloth Smith, Bob Ford Rockefeller **EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:** Smith, Gordon Glenn Sarbanes Frist 1—Official Business Gorton Snowe Graham Torricelli 2-Necessarily Absent Specter Gramm Harkin Wellstone 3—Illness Grams Stevens Hollings Wyden 4—Other Grassley Thomas Inouve Thompson Gregg Hagel Thurmond Hatch Warner AY—Announced Yea Helms AN-Announced Nay PY-Paired Yea PN-Paired Nay

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that Ambassador Barshefsky is well qualified for this post, but we are not willing to start down the path of granting waivers. The problem with this course is shown by the fact that her work raised concerns with Senators from States along the U.S.-Canadian border, because those States have several serious trade disputes with Canada. Their concerns were only alleviated after they had discussions with her. Again, it is the problem of perception. We stand by the bill that we passed last year, and therefore must oppose this resolution.